NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

February 8, 1996

In honor of Black History Month, The Field Museum Proudly Presents The Annual

AFRICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

"Sankofa: Learning About The Past,
Building For The Future"

Saturday, February 10, 1996
12:00 noon -- "Legacy" with Maggie Brown
1:00 p.m. -- Pocomania Caribbean Dancers
2:00 p.m. -- Sunset Dance Company/
Trinity Irish Dance Ensemble

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL DAYS:

See demonstrations about Kwanzaa, Black Indians, The Middle Passage, Gullah and Maroon societies, and Blacks in the military.

Learn about the geography of Africa and the research on Africa being done by **Chap Kusimba,** Assistant Curator of African Archaeology and Ethnology at The Field Museum.

Find out what *Sankofa* means by using Adinkra symbols and help make a mural depicting the accomplishments of African Americans.

VOICE MAIL ALERT! The system is almost full -- erase your messages promptly or incoming messages may not be recorded.

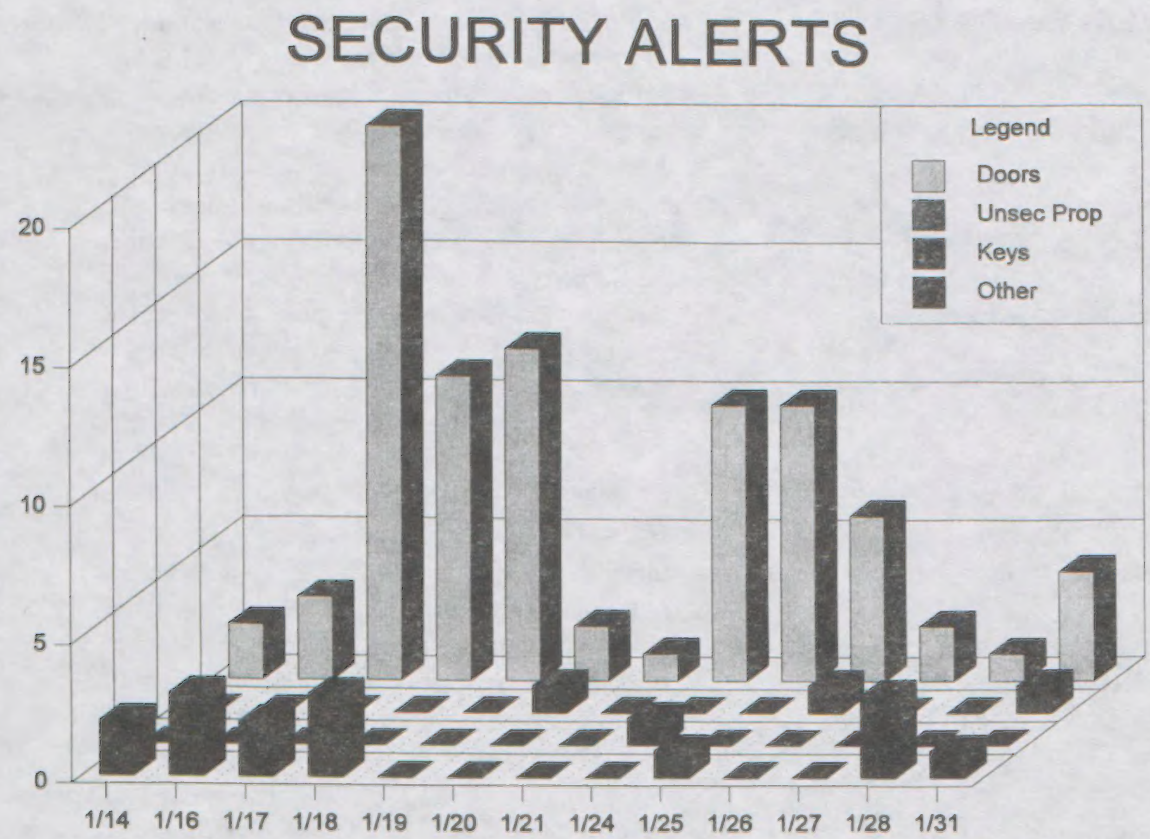
A change for all staff -- SIGN-IN/SIGN-OUT PROCEDURES for WEEKEND and AFTER HOURS Current policy requires that all staff entering the west door at any time on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays must sign in. However, staff entering through the north and south doors have not been required to do so. Effective Saturday, February 10, it will no longer be necessary to sign in or out at the west door on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays when the Museum is open to the public. All staff must continue to sign in and out before 8:00 a.m. and after 5:30 p.m. every day, including weekends, regardless of which door is used.

NORTH AND SOUTH DOOR HOLIDAY ACCESS -- All staff are reminded that the north and south doors are not opened until 9:00 a.m. on Museum holidays, such as Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, etc. All staff should use the west door to enter prior to 9:00 a.m. on all Museum holidays.

Reminder **-- THE FIELD MUSEUM IS SMOKE-FREE!** Housekeeping and Security have found an increase of cigarette butts in the restrooms and emergency stairwells. *No smoking is permitted inside the building -- period!!* Smoking is allowed at the entrances, but staff are reminded that school children use the west door. Adhering to the no smoking regulation will help make this a healthier work environment for us all -- for staff and volunteers, school children and other visitors.

SECURITY ALERT UPDATE

From January 14, when we began the Security Alerts, thru January 31, the Security Services Department has issued 82 alerts for unlocked doors, 3 for unsecured property, 15 for lights left on and 1 for keys left in a door.
The unsecured property included a TV/VCR, skins, an unlocked walk-in refrigerator, sealed bags of items, and several open doors (as opposed to unlocked). There appears to be a definite decrease in the number of alerts issued. We have issued a total of 4 for February, one for a key.



If you have any questions or concerns about the Security Alert process, please contact Ron Cundiff at ext. 856. **Thanks for your cooperation and continued support.**

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

ATTENTION NATURALISTS!

The Kalamazoo Nature Center and the Michigan State Parks are looking for qualified naturalists to work as Seasonal Naturalists in forty-three of Michigan's State Parks this summer. The Naturalists will develop and implement naturalist programs for adults and youth within a Michigan State Park. This is a 40 hour/week position with flexible hours (compensation= $220-280/week. For more information, contact **Lori Breslauer** in Academic Affairs (x 627).

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday 6 February was delivered by **John Engel,** Curator, Bryology, Department of Botany, Field Museum. John discussed liverwort diversity and morphology. He reviewed the basic life history pattern where generations alternate between the diploid sporophyte and the haploid gametophyte. He illustrated the diverse habitats occupied by different groups of liverworts from soil surface, twig and branch, niches that one regards as typical, to specialized microhabitats such as growing on the surface of leaves or on mammalian dung. From a geographic perspective, liverwort species diversity is highest in the southern temperate realm where in many cases they are also the dominant plants in the community. John discussed numerous features of liverwort morphology that are utilized in their classification. The shape and structure of features of the stem, leaves and reproductive tissues are quite important. Certain attributes, such as characters of the oil bodies within cells can be evaluated only with material one to five days old. To obtain these data it is necessary to make observations using a compound microscope under field conditions at quite remote sites. In discussing members of the family Geocalycacae, John noted the general trend in species diversity to increase from northern temperate to tropical to the greatest in southern temperate realms. He also reported preliminary findings in a phylogenetic study of elements of the family Lepidoziaceae. This joint study with **Gary Merrill,** Research Associate, Department of Botany, Field Museum, is focused on 50+ species of *Telaranea.* Cladistic analysis of data for thirty-six of these species strongly suggests the group is monophyletic and the early derivative taxa have an australasian origin.

EMPLOYEE SALE -- *February 13 & 14*

The following material will be available for sale to Museum employees:

Light fixtures	Typewriters
Typing tables	Miscellaneous goods

Please contact **Tom Geary,** Purchasing Department (x278) on Monday, February 12 for the location of material for viewing. Employees interested in purchasing any of this material must ***submit a sealed bid to Tom Geary by February 16.*** Personnel submitting the highest bid will be notified on February 19. ***Note:*** material is being sold on an "as is" basis.

Reminder ... **LOST & FOUND**

Visitor Services is responsible for the "Lost & Found" area.

During regular Museum hours on all seven days of the week, items found by staff members should be turned into the Security console. Inquiries regarding lost items can be directed to x551 or x386.

When the Museum is closed, items found by Museum staff should be turned into the Security console.

Editor's note: Due to some office changes, I will be relocated for the week of February 9-16. I will not receive email during this time. Please leave your *Natural News* submissions on floppy disk with paper copy with **Richard Koontz** in the President's Office. Thanks. -- ***Carolyn Klyce***

WELCOME!

Staff Members who started at the Museum in January

Erica Blair	Auxiliary Serv	Administrative Asst	864
William Denton	Housekeeping	Housekeeper	371
Elizabeth Klarich	Anthropology	MS-Science II (term)	443
Susan Slominski	Geology	MS-Science II (term)	335
Robert Spoonhunter	Anthropology	Intern (term)	611
Monique Tarleton	Security	Security Officer	322
Mary Ellen Ward	Academic Affairs	Intern (term)	559

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK...

Staff Members who left the Museum in January

Sharon Cook	Public Services	Administrative Assistant
Christine Gross	Anthropology	MS-Science IV- Collection Manager
Michelle McFadden	Security	Security Officer
Ayanna Mitchell	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep (term)
David Moehring	Vending	Vending Assistant
Tonya Price	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep (term)
Marcy Sperling	Women's Board	Women's Board Coordinator
Dieudaide Victor	Housekeeping	Housekeeper

WELCOME!

Please help us welcome **Cindy Andresen,** who started as Women's Board Coordinator on February 1. Cindy comes to us from Advocate Charitable Foundation where she was a Manager of Major Gifts for Lutheran General Hospital. Prior to her employment with Advocate, she was a director of Special Events for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. A native of Illinois, Cindy received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Please stop by the Women's Board Office on the first floor to say hello and introduce yourselves. Cindy can be reached on extension 650 or 870.

-- **Susan VandenBosch,** Director of Individual Giving and Estate Planning

CONGRATULATIONS!

To **Rich Faron** and his wife **Liz** on the birth of their son, **Sean Robert Faron.** On Tuesday, February 6, Sean weighed in at 9 lbs. 1 oz. and measured 20" long. Both mother and baby are doing fine.